the stipulation that the conditions of their service should also be similar to those in Government Departments. Accordingly, for the teaching and non-teaching staff under autonomous organisations including the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, the age of retirement shall be 58 years. In the case of these employees also protection for the benefit of retirement at 60 years will be given to those who already enjoy it. Retirement at 58 years will be applicable only to future entrants.

(d) Formal orders are yet to issue.

कराची में भारतीय लड़कियों की कथित बिक्री

1744. **श्री प्रमोद महाजन:** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान जालंधर से प्रकाशित होने वाले दिनांक 10 जून, 1989 के पंजाब केसरी में "कराची की मंडी में भारतीय और बांग्लादेशी लडकियों की नीलामी" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि भारतीय और बांग्लादेश की लड़कियों की कराची के बाजार में नीलामी की जाती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं और इस मामले में सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव): (क) और (ख) सरकार ने समाचार पत्रों में छपी इन खबरों को देखा है कि अवांछनीय लोगों द्वारा कराची में लड़कियों को बेचा जा रहा है। कराची स्थित अपने प्रमुख कौंसलावास के माध्यम से हमने इसकी छानबीन की है। इस बात का कोई प्रमाण नहीं है और न ही इस बात की पुष्टि हुई है कि किसी भारतीय लड़की को बेचा गया है।

Separate agency for Metropolitan Transport System under the Railways

1745. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to set up a separate agency for the construction of metropolitan transport system under their jurisdiction; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Such a proposal is under consideration.

(b) The proposal envisaged the setting up of a public sector company, named the Indian Metro Railway Construction Company, as a specialised agency for undertaking construction of metro railway systems for Indian cities, on behalf of the State Governments/local authorities.

Revamping of D.T.C. structure

1746. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a press report captioned "78 p.c. commuters dis-satisfied with DTC" as reported in the *Hindustan Times* of 1st May, 1989;

(b) if so, whether the findings of the report of the Indian Institute of Public Opinion have since been published;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to revamp the structure of DTC in view of findings of the report; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) According to the news-item that appeared in the Press, a survey conducted by Indian Institute of Public Opinion concluded that majority of the commuters were not satisfied with some aspects of the operations of DTC. Important aspects emphasised for improvements were in respect of avoidance of missing trips, skipping of bus stops, maintenance of buses and the attitude of the crew of the private buses towards commuters.

(d) and (e) DTC, as a continuing measure, has instituted a system of regular checks to regulate speed, punctuality and halting of buses at stops. By strict watch on maintenance of buses, the fleet utilisation of DTC per day now is 92 per cent on all working days. There is constant effort to reduce rate of break-down and missing of trips. In addition, refresher courses for drivers and conductors of DTC on behavioural aspects are organised.

In order to achieve progressive improvement, DTC has also taken measures of decentralisation of administrative, financial and operational powers, to the regional heads.

Issuing six passports to Rajinder Singh 'king of Amritsar

1747. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a person named Rajinder Singh 'King' from Amritsar has been issued six passports by Government;

(b) if so, how Government have issued six passports to him against the provisions of the Indian Passports Act according to which only one passport is to be issued to an individual; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against the said Rajinder Singh 'King' and why the illegal passports issued to him have not been impounded?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Shri Rajinder Singh was issued a passport on 12th July, 1982. Thereafter, reporting damage and depositing this passport with the Passport Officer, he was given a replacement. This occured twice again. Currently he does not hold any valid Indian passport.

(b) No violation of the Passports Act was involved.

(c) Does not arise

Attachment of Mukhed-Manmad and Kolhapur Pune sections to Central Railway

1748. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Members of Parliament have made a request to the Government recently to attach MUKHED-MANMAD and KOLHAPUR-PUNE sections of South Central Railway to the Central Railway;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The jurisdiction of a Railway Division/Zone is decided with reference to administrative and operational requirements consistent with the needs of efficiency. It has not been considered desirable to disturb the existing arrangement so far.

Assistance for 'Buddha Poornima Project' at Hyderabad

1749. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to give financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the "Budha Poornima Project" at Hyderabad; and